



CITY COUNCIL
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
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May 16, 2007

TO: Clayton Wong
Council Administration

FROM: Barbara Marshall, Chair
City Council

SUBJECT: Travel Report for WIR Conference, Fairbanks, Alaska May 6-12, 2007

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CITY COUNCIL
HONOLULU, HAWAII

Sunday, May 6--Monday May 7 Traveling from Honolulu to Fairbanks, Alaska.

Tuesday, May 8—All day visit to Chena Hot Springs Sustainable Community, with lectures on converting geothermal energy, as well as pesticide-free farming applicable to Hawaii. This resort uses green building standards as well and is working to harness hydro power. Gwen Holdman, Director of Chena Springs, points out wood, paper and cardboard can be used to power a city—as we do with H-Power.

Wednesday, May 9—Meetings with Council members, Commissioners, and Borough representatives to discuss mutual problems including affordable housing, public lands and vacation rentals.

Thursday, May 10 and Friday, May 11—Conference presenters and seminars:

THE ECONOMICS OF PUBLIC LAND CONSERVATION:

Essential information for Honolulu as the Council must establish use of public monies mandated by voters in the last election to acquire and protect public lands. Dr. Ray Rasker (Headwaterseconomics.com) discussed the various classes of public lands—including federally protected, unprotected, and industrial. Although Congress designates wilderness lands, not all public lands need be wilderness, and Ken Rait, from the Heritage Forests Campaign in Washington DC points out the importance of working with all users of lands to determine best use and repeats that wilderness should not be created on all public lands. Wilderness use, however, does allow hunting and fishing, grazing and some other uses. Additionally, Jim Wattenberger, Supervisor of Mendocino County, CA and a long-time firefighter, points out true wilderness also presents fire issues and fire suppression must be part of any plan for wilderness. Further, all presenters focused on how counties can benefit financially and in quality of life through preservation of public lands.

GREEN BUILDING STANDARDS AND PRACTICES

Using 2002 statistics, Dale Patten, Commissioner, MacKenzie County ND, points out that 39.4% of all energy used in the US is used by buildings. Architects and engineers have formed "Architecture 2030 Challenge" with a goal of using 50% less fossil fuel in new buildings—and improving existing buildings to use 50% of the fossil fuel they currently use. Fairbanks, Alaska, through its use of green standards has cut a \$420.6 million dollar fuel bill by \$200 million. John Davies, Research Director of the Cold Climate Housing Research Center, points out short-term goals include conservation through education—simple changes like walking instead of driving. Mid-term goals include the use of wind power and long-term goals for Fairbanks include expansion of the gas pipe line. Mike Musik and Sasha Zemench with the North State Borough Association of Builders discussed the realities of a Green Building Initiative—and their goal to make Fairbanks the "greenest" city in America. If they can target this—with average fifty-below temperatures—shouldn't it be simple for Honolulu to achieve that designation? And shouldn't the Council lead such an effort? They are incorporating environmental considerations into every phase of the home building process. We should look for incentives to do the same. Complaints about green building costing too much may be baseless—and, in any case, as green building becomes more mainstream, costs go down. These presenters urged attendees to "Act globally and think globally"—but they don't live on an Island!

PATH TO EDEN

Presenters were from Montana, which has a similar problem to Hawaii—with people coming in who don't understand the culture or habits of the long-time residents. Harold Blattie, Executive Director of the Montana Association of Counties, Commissioner Connie Eissinger from McCone County, MT and Commissioner Mike Murray from Lewis and Clark County, MT., talked about the most critical issue, which seemed to be that residents are used to having access to hunting and fishing areas—even on private property. New owners come in, fence in their property—and keep old-timers out. The Counties—with the help of resident and popular TV anchor Tom Brokaw—made a video for distribution to those contemplating purchase of property in Montana. The video emphasizes the idea of "neighborliness"—from allowing access to tending noxious weeds so they don't spread. This new video has just been released; a prior video was distributed through realtors, Farm Bureaus, and community organizations—and was said to be well-received—but there was no indication that the target audience (potential buyers) was being reached...and the video was very long—doubtful you'd get much except 'preaching to the choir' out of it. There was nothing in place to monitor the outcomes—and it seems like if Honolulu were to do something like this there would need to be an ordinance that mandated showing of such video to every potential out-of-state buyer. Interesting idea, though...

BASIC PRINCIPLES OF TRIBAL CIVIL JURISDICTION OVER NON-MEMBERS

Presenter was David Case, long-time attorney—specialist in tribal issues. This might be relevant for Hawaii should the Akaka Bill pass—but his presentation pertained primarily to reservations, where tribes have exclusive jurisdiction on their own members in criminal matters. He pointed out however that the tribes have no criminal jurisdiction over non-Indians—and civil jurisdiction on non-members is restricted. Many of the tribal issues have wound up in court—for example,

one state tried to tax Natives on income earned outside the reservation, and the Supreme Court said no. Congress can limit or expand the rights of tribes operating on reservations—but these issues wouldn't be relevant as there is no plan to limit Hawaiians to "reservations".

ALASKA'S HOMELAND SECURITY TRAINING AND EXERCISE PLAN

Alaska was just winding up a two-week exercise, part of a nationwide Department of Defense exercise—interesting because Fairbanks is responsible for Emergency Medical response—but not roads, police, health etc. And the consensus from presenters was that the "feds don't know what they're doing" so local response and co-response is vital. They did a back-to-back mass casualty exercise—taxing the system one day to the point where they had to call for federal assistance—and then taxing those-second-responders the next day with a second exercise. Interesting to note the second day response involved massive aero-medical assistance—since they had to transport patients to other parts of the country. All responders are on a single radio-channel—unique to Alaska—but something Honolulu is working on and possibly should be considering with other counties.

DEPARTURE:

6 a.m. Saturday, May 12; arrived Honolulu 9 p.m.

May 8 - 11, 2007

Fairbanks, AK

B. Marshall

City and County of Honolulu
STATEMENT OF COMPLETED TRAVEL

- Statement due within 30 days of completing travel.
- Statement not turned in will result in total cash advance to be included as income on W-2.

I certify that I departed from Honolulu on official business on 5/06/07 at 9:00pm and returned to Honolulu on 5/12/07 at 8:17pm, as authorized (see attached Form M-6-69). The following is an accounting of expenditures and funds advanced to traveler (attach required receipts). Travel destination and purpose:

(1) PAYMENTS MADE BY TRAVELER FOR ALLOWABLE EXPENSES:

(a) Lodging, Meals and Tips:

From 5/06/07 to 5/12/07
6.25 days @ \$ 130 per day = \$812.50

The conference, etc., started: Date 5/08/07 Time 8:00AM

The conference, etc., ended: Date 5/11/07 Time 8:00PM

(b) Excess Lodging Costs: 5 days @ \$ 1.40 per day = \$ 7.00

Actual lodging cost per day \$ 86.40

Less lodging allowance per day (85.00)

Excess lodging per day \$ 1.40

(c) Limousine, Taxi, Bus:

DATE	DESTINATION	AMOUNT
<u>5/8-10</u>	<u>Auto rental</u>	<u>\$ 84.70</u>
	<u>Gasoline refill</u>	<u>14.51</u>
		<u>\$ 99.21</u>

(d) Other allowable expenses:

DATE	NATURE OF EXPENSE	AMOUNT
<u>5/6-12/07</u>	<u>HIA parking</u>	<u>\$ 33.92</u>
	<u>R/T Airfare(Hnl-Sea-Hnl)</u>	<u>399.50</u>
	<u>R/T " (connect Fairbanks)</u>	<u>446.00</u>
	<u>Registration fee</u>	<u>420.00</u>
		<u>\$1,299.42</u>

TOTAL ALLOWABLE EXPENSES, (a) + (b) + (c) + (d) \$2,218.13

(2) CASH ADVANCED TO TRAVELER 0.00

REIMBURSEMENT DUE TRAVELER \$2,218.13

AMOUNT DUE CITY FROM TRAVELER - if cash advances exceed expenses (\$)

SUMMARY OF TOTAL TRAVEL EXPENDITURES

Total Allowable Expenses (as shown above)	<u>\$2,218.13</u>
Air Transportation Cost (not included above)	<u>0.00</u>
Registration Fee, etc. (not included above)	<u>0.00</u>
TOTAL TRAVEL EXPENDITURES	<u>\$ 2,218.13</u>

Prepared by:

Barbara Marshall
 Signature of Traveler
Barbara Marshall

APPROVED:

Coyle B. King
 Department Head